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GROUP 1700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **MAEDA, Reizo et al.**

Serial No.: 09/893,703

Filed: **June 29, 2001**

Group Art Unit: 1745

Examiner: **Alejandro, R.**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 4945

For: **HYDROGEN ABSORBING ALLOY ELECTRODE, METHOD OF
FABRICATING THE SAME AND ALKALINE STORAGE BATTERY**

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: May 8, 2003

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Official Action dated **April 8, 2003**.

In the Action, restriction is required between Group (I), Claims 1-5 and 9 ; and Group (II), Claims 6-8.

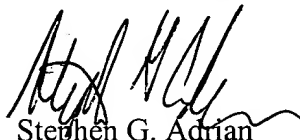
Applicants hereby elect the subject matter of Group (I), Claims 1-5 and 9 for prosecution in this application. This election is made without traverse, it being understood that the applicants' rights to the filing of a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter under 35 USC 120 and 35 USC 121 are retained.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

In the event any additional fees are required in connection with this response, please
charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE